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LETTER DATED 27 MARCH 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CHILE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour herewith to reiterate the views expressed by the Chilean delegation on 27 March 1996 in the informal consultations held by the Security Council regarding the draft statement by the President on arrangements for consulting with troop-contributing countries.

I should like to make the following points:

Chile considers it a matter of principle that troop-contributing countries have a right to be heard by the Security Council.

We must acknowledge as a basic premise that a State which makes available military, police or civilian personnel to the international community for a peace-keeping operation, even though there is a risk of loss of life, thereby acquires the legitimate right to be consulted by the Security Council, in whatever manner the Council deems fit. As currently drafted, the statement by the President does not recognize this right.

We consider that in due course, the Security Council will have to take this matter up again in order to work out the necessary consensus so that this right may be recognized de jure and not only de facto.

Having said this, my delegation will join in the consensus in order to adopt the presidential statement that introduces improvements to the arrangements for consulting and exchanging information with troop-contributing countries established in the previous presidential statement of 4 November 1994 (S/PRST/1994/62).

I request that this present letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Juan SOMAVIA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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